

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

50X1-HUM

SUBJECT Pribram Mining Pits: 10, 11, and 12: Production/
Forced Labor Camps/layout

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

2. Information about the Pribram uranium mines dates to Sept 53.

Pits 10 and 11

3. The Pribram mining pits No. 10 and No. 11 are located eight km east of Pribram in an area about 10 x 100 meters. The highway Strakonice - Prague runs about 40 m east of the pits. The pits are in a forest. They are fenced by two wire fences: the inside fence is about 250 cm high; the outside fence is about 150 cm high. There are watchtowers around the whole area and within the fences. They are spaced about 50 m apart.

4. "Pit 10 is an old pit which is now just used for ventilation and security purposes. The machinery in pit 10 -- lift, pumps etc -- is old Czech and German machinery.

5. "Pit 11 has three levels, and a fourth level was underway in Sept 53. Fifty per cent of drilling machines in this pit are new Soviet models. They are much heavier than the Czech drilling machines but suitable for the work in stone and uranium ore.

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There are also Czech and German drilling machines and pneumatic hammers. The pit has Stalinec loading machines. Czech explosives are used: dynamon, dynamite and astralit. Pit 13 is managed by a Soviet engineer.

5. "The daily production of Pit 13 is 240 tons of stone and radioactive uranium ore. The radioactive material is transported twice a week to the OTK Korni Zdar. The central loading and classification station for all the Jachymov uranium mines is located there. The material is taken to Korni Zdar in two Tatra-111 trucks.
6. "All equipment needed in the pits is brought from the Pribram depot. The main depot for the Jachymov, Korni Slavkov and Pribram mines is at Ostrov.
7. "There are about 600 prisoners working in these two pits and about 240 civilians. The civilians, mostly brigade workers, have signed for periods of six to 12 months. The civilians live in a camp situated near Pribram on the highway between the Pribram pits 1 and 2. These civilians have political education sessions weekly. About 80% of the prisoners are political prisoners; the remainder are criminals. All have been sentenced to terms of over five years. A forced labor camp for the political prisoners was completed June 53. It consists of wooden barracks.
8. "The wages in Pit 13 are higher than those in other pits of the Pribram Inspectorate. The Stakhanov workers there on contract receive 8000 - 10,000 kcs per month.
9. "During the prison reform of May 52 the Czechoslovak Ministry of Justice decreed that prisoners, both political and criminal, should receive the same wages as civilian workers but in the so-called Prisoners' Money, printed at the printing press in the jail at Praha-Pankrac. Thus, prior to the currency reform of 30 May 53 the prisoners received practically the same wages as civilians. However, they had to pay about 25% of this income for food and living quarters in the forced labor camp. They also had to pay the living expenses of their families. About 25% of their wages was withheld as savings, to be handed over upon release. This sum, the ulozone, was a guarantee against possible damages the prisoner might cause. 50X1-HUM
 released prisoner actually receiving his ulozone. At the time of the 1953 currency reform it was discovered that some Stakhanov prisoners had saved as much as 30,000 - 40,000 kcs in prisoners' money in the old currency. That was because their food and cigarette purchases had been rationed - 150 cigarettes a month. After the currency reform the prisoners received one crown or prisoners' money in the new currency for every 50 crowns in the old currency. They were entitled at the same time to buy unlimited quantities of food, though cigarettes were kept on the ration of 150 per month. The morale of the miners seemed to fall after the currency reform. That was because so many lost substantial savings and the food got worse. All the prisoners in Pit 10 and Pit 13 went on strike for the whole day of 2 June 53.
10. "There are about 200 SNB (Security Police) guards attached to these pits. SNB guards are stationed day and night on the watch towers around the forced labor camp. They are equipped with search lights, CZ-26 light machine guns and pistols. Every guard is connected by telephone with the guard headquarters. There are always three or four SNB men in the main gatekeeper's room. New living quarters for the families of these SNB guards were under construction in Sept 53.

For location of the Pribram pits 10 and 13 see Enclosure (A)

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Pits 1 and 2

11. "The Pribram mining pits 1 and 2 are located six km southeast of Pribram in an area about 300 x 150 m in a forest. The mining area is surrounded by four fences. There is an area seven m wide between the inside and outside fences.
 12. "Pit 1 has five mining levels and a sixth still incomplete as of Sept 53. Pit 2 has four mining levels and work was starting on a fifth. Both pits are equipped mainly with Soviet machinery.
 13. "Both pits not clear from text whether separately or together produce about 900 tons of stone and radioactive uranium ore each day. They operate on three shifts. The veins of uranium ore are six to eight-cm thick. The radioactive material is transported to the OTK Horii Zdar each week by four Tatra-111 trucks. It is said that according to official statistics Pits 1 and 2 are fulfilling the Five Year Plan 85%.
 14. "The production in both pits is supervised by Engineer (fnu) Jelizarew, a Soviet.
 15. "Both pits are worked by political prisoners and a few civilians. There are about 60 civilians, including about 15 women. They live in a camp on the way to Pribram. A forced labor camp, located between pits 1 and 2, holds about 1200 prisoners in 10 barracks. About 90% are political prisoners. Most are sentenced to terms of over 10 years. About 300 political prisoners are sent to work in the Kamenina pit, about three km south of Pits 1 and 2. The prisoners have political education once a month, usually on a Sunday.
 16. "The political prisoners in Pits 1 and 2 earn much less than the civilian workers - about 1200 kcs per month in prisoners' money in the new currency. Of this sum they must pay 600 Kcs per month for food and board in the forced labor camp. The usual ulozne deduction is 300 Kcs per month. The prisoners just receive about 300 kcs in cash prisoners' money. The top political prisoners receive no more than 800 Kcs in cash. At the beginning of Sept 53 the prisoners and civilian workers went on strike for a whole day to demand a wage increase. As punishment the camp administration deducted one month's wage from the prisoners.
- "Watchtowers are set 60 m apart around the mining area. About 200 SNB men live in barracks near the pits.

For location of the Pribram pits 1 and 2 see Enclosure (B)

end

ENCLOSURE (A): Sketch Showing the Location of the Pribram Pits 1G and 13, with Legend

(B): Sketch Showing the Location of the Pribram pits 1 and 2, with Legend



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ENCLOSURE (A)

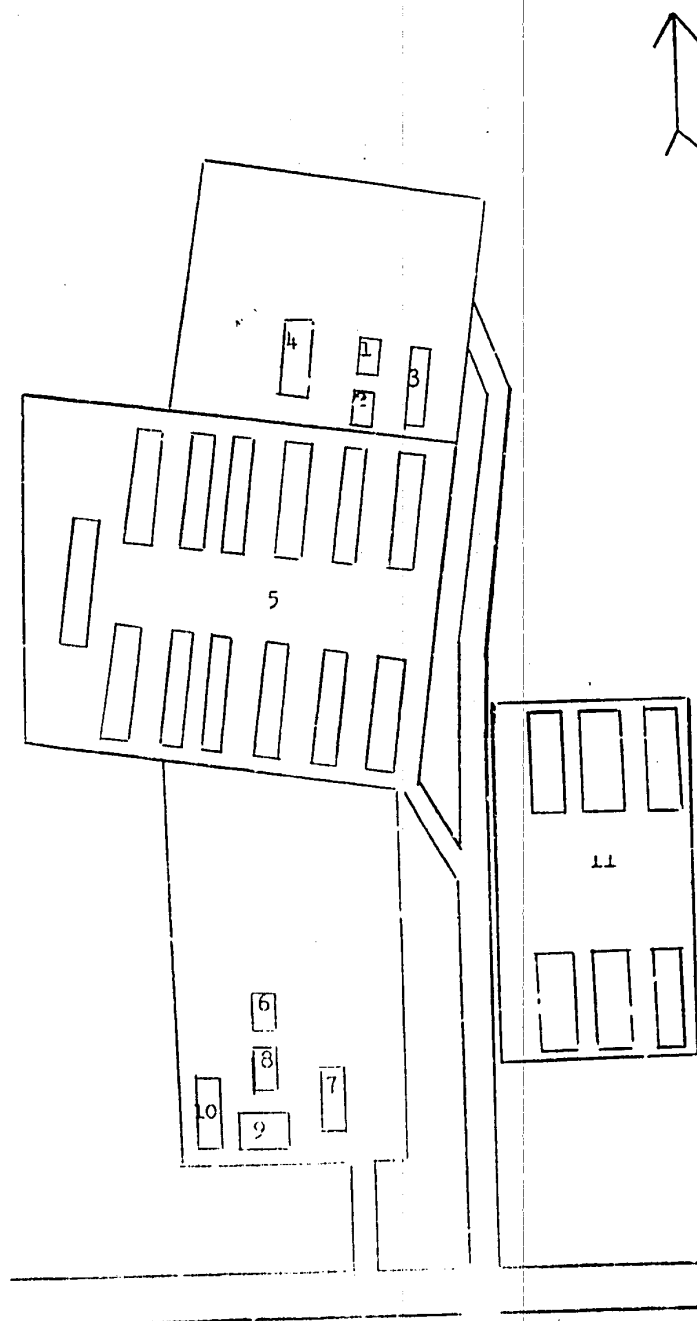
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Pits No 10 and 13 Mining Inspection of Uranium Mines, Pribram

North

Legend:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Pit 10 | 10. Wash and dressing rooms |
| 2. Offices, wooden building | 11. Security Police barracks (SNB) |
| 3. Machinery section, wooden barrack | |
| 4. Depot for lamps, wooden barrack | |
| 5. New forced labor camp, wooden barracks | |
| 6. Pit 13 | |
| 7. Depot of lamps, wooden barrack | |
| 8. Machinery section, brick building | |
| 9. Offices, wooden building | |

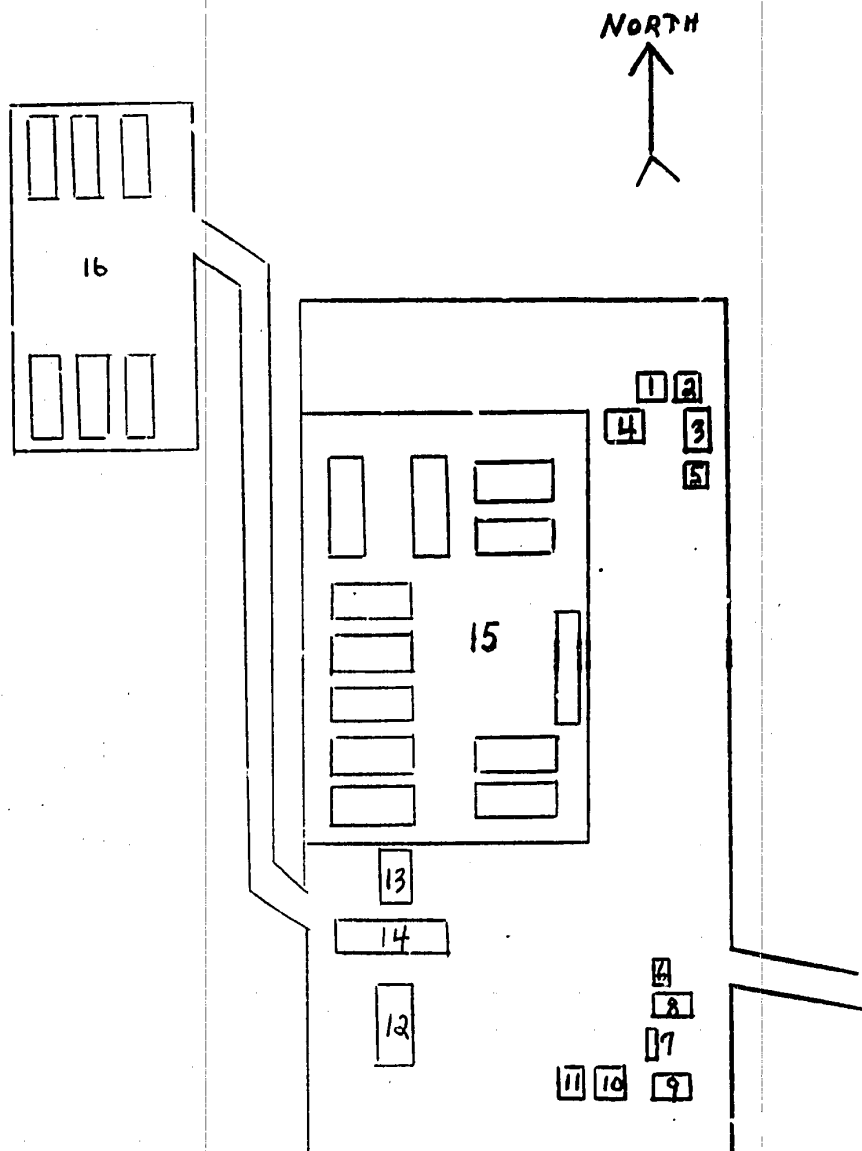
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ENCLOSURE (B)

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Pits No 1 and 2, Mining Inspection, Uranium Mines of Pribram.



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ENCLOSURE (B)
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Legend

- (1) Pit 2
- (2) Machinery section
- (3) Workshop for the repair of mining equipment
- (4) Offices, of wood
- (5) Depot of lamps
- (6) Depot for registration and stamping of mining materials before shipment
- (7) Office for Pit 1
- (8) Depot of lamps for Pit 1
- (9) Pit 1
- (10) Pit 1
- (11) Machinery section
- (12) Workshop for the repair of mining equipment.
- (13) Depot for prisoners' uniforms
- (14) Headquarters of the forced labor camp
- (15) Forced labor camp
- (16) SNB barracks."

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